

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 TRSE-00
OIC-02 MC-02 OMB-01 /064 W
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O 051421Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3438
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 02736

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC
SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE

REF: (A) USNATO 2494 (DTG 281806Z APR 77), (B) STATE
99100 (DTG 022138Z MAY 77), (C) USNATO 2565 (DTG 301700Z
APR 77)

1. THERE FOLLOWS IN PARA 4 BELOW THE REVISED DRAFT
TEXT OF THE DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE (J DE G(77)44),
WHICH THE DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE WILL ADDRESS ON MAY 6.

2. DURING DRC REVIEW OF THIS DRAFT, WE PROPOSE TO FOCUS
OUR ATTENTION ON OBTAINING STRONG STATEMENTS IN THE
COMMUNIQUE ON (A) US PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE NATO DEFENSES
AND (B) PORTUGUESE FORCE DEVELOPMENT. IN THIS REGARD,
WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE FOR WASHINGTON'S
CONSIDERATION:

PARA 2:

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"MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE ALLIANCE SHOULD UNDERTAKE A
LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM TO IMPLEMENT 1977 MINISTERIAL
GUIDANCE AND ADAPT NATO'S DETERRENT AND DEFENSE POSTURE
TO THE NEEDS OF THE 1980S. IN THIS REGARD, THEY DIRECTED
THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN PERMANENT SESSION TO
PREPARE A TIME-PHASED DEFENSE ACTION PROGRAM, CONCEN-
TRATING ON A LIMITED NUMBER OF PRIORITY AREAS WHERE

COLLECTIVE ACTION IS URGENTLY REQUIRED, FOR MINISTERIAL APPROVAL AT THEIR SPRING 1978 MEETING. TO COMPLEMENT THIS EFFORT, MINISTERS AGREED TO INITIATE ON A MORE IMMEDIATE BASIS A PROGRAM OF SHORT-TERM MEASURES IN THE HIGH PRIORITY AREAS OF ANTI-ARMOR, WAR RESERVE MUNITIONS AND READINESS."

PARA 10

"MINISTERS APPLAUDED THE PROGRESS MADE TOWARD MODERNIZING PORTUGAL'S ARMED FORCES THROUGH ALLIED CONTRIBUTIONS OF MATERIEL AND TRAINING, WHICH WILL ENABLE PORTUGAL TO ASSUME ITS ROLE IN ALLIANCE DEFENSE. THEY NOTED, HOWEVER, THE CONTINUING NEEDS OF PORTUGAL AND TURKEY FOR EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE AND THE IMPORTANCE FOR ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY AND SECURITY OF EARLY COMPLETION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS IN THE SOUTHEASTERN FLANK."

(COMMENT: WE HAVE OBTAINED INFORMAL TURKISH APPROVAL OF THIS LANGUAGE. DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PORTUGUESE DELEGATION INDICATED THAT A FORMULATION ALONG THESE LINES ALSO WOULD PROBABLY BE ACCEPTABLE TO LISBON.
END COMMENT.)

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY OPENING OF BUSINESS, MAY 6.

4. BEGIN TEXT OF J DE G (77)44:

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DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE -- 17TH-18TH MAY, 1977

DRAFT COMMUNIQUE

- THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN MINISTERIAL SESSION MET IN BRUSSELS ON 17TH-18TH MAY, 1977.

2. MINISTERS TOOK STOCK OF THE OUTCOME OF THE DISCUSSION ON DEFENSE MATTERS AT THE MEETING OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL HELD IN LONDON ON 10TH-11TH MAY AT THE LEVEL OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENTS.

(BEGIN BRACKETS) TO BE EXPANDED IN THE LIGHT OF INITIATIVES TAKEN AT THE LONDON MEETING (END BRACKETS)

3. MINISTERS NOTED WITH INTEREST A STATEMENT BY MR. ORLA MOLLER, THIS YEAR'S CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROGROUP MINISTERS, ON CURRENT WORK IN THE EUROGROUP IN ENHANCING COLLABORATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WHOLE ALLIANCE. THEY TOOK

NOTE WITH SATISFACTION OF THE PROGRESS ACCOMPLISHED IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS OF PRACTICAL COOPERATION COVERED BY THE EUROPEAN SUB-GROUPS.

4. IN A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC SITUATION AND THE MILITARY BALANCE BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT, MINISTERS HEARD A STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE. THEY TOOK NOTE WITH CONCERN OF THE CONTINUING GROWTH IN THE MILITARY POWER OF THE WARSAW PACT. IN THE LIGHT OF THIS TREND THEY REITERATED THE NEED FOR NATO TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE ITS DEFENSIVE CAPABILITIES.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 NATO 02736

5. MINISTERS TOOK NOTE OF THE CURRENT POSITIONS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS ON MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS (MBFR) AND THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS (SALT).

6. MINISTERS REVIEWED PROGRESS MADE IN PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PROGRAMS AND VARIOUS OTHER MEASURES DESIGNED TO IMPROVE NATO'S CURRENT DEFENSE CAPABILITIES ON LAND, IN THE AIR AND AT SEA, PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS THE STRENGTHENING OF CONVENTIONAL FORCES. THEY REITERATED THAT PROGRESS CAN BE BEST ACHIEVED THROUGH COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS AND RESTATED THEIR DETERMINATION TO PROMOTE GREATER ALLIANCE COOPERATION.

7. IN PARTICULAR, MINISTERS CONSIDERED A REPORT ON THE NATO FLEXIBILITY STUDIES. THESE STUDIES ARE DESIGNED TO

IDENTIFY, WITH A VIEW TO REMEDIAL ACTION, THE VARIOUS CONSTRAINTS WHICH MILITATE AGAINST THE FULL EFFECTIVENESS OF NATO'S FORCES AT SEA, IN THE AIR AND ON LAND. THEY NOTED THAT A NUMBER OF THE PROPOSALS HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND AGREED TO DIRECT THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO SOLVE THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES.

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8. MINISTERS EXAMINED SEPARATELY SEVERAL REPORTS RELATING TO IMPROVING THE EQUIPMENT OF THE FORCES OF THE ALLIANCE. THEY NOTED THE PROGRESS AND THE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE INTER-OPERABILITY BEING MADE IN VARIOUS COOPERATIVE PROJECTS. IN THE IMPORTANT SELECTED AREAS, IN PARTICULAR, MINISTERS REVIEWED THE ACTION WHICH HAD BEEN TAKEN TO ACHIEVE INTER-OPERABILITY AND SECURITY OF MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS AND AGREED ON THE NEED FOR THEIR NATIONS TO CONTINUE CLOSE COLLABORATION. THEY ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL IN THEIR RECENT MEETING IN LONDON (BEGIN BRACKETS), PARTICULARLY THE INITIATIVES TO FIND A COMMON NATO DECISION IN RELATION TO FUTURE SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES. (END BRACKETS)

9. INFRASTRUCTURE AND AWACS TO BE PROVIDED LATER.

10. (TURKEY)

- (PORTUGAL)

11. IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATO'S ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES, MINISTERS GAVE GUIDANCE TO THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FORCE PROPOSALS FOR THE PERIOD UP TO 1984, AND AGREED THAT THE GUIDANCE SHOULD BE ADOPTED AS A DIRECTIVE FOR ALL DEFENSE PLANNING ACTIVITIES BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL IN NATO. A SUMMARY OF THE GUIDANCE IS AT ANNEX. END TEXT. (COMMENT: SUMMARY OF THE GUIDANCE PROVIDED IN REF C. END COMMENT.)
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